

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IGA-01 AID-10 EB-03 L-02

EUR-10 MC-02 SP-01 PRS-01 DRC-01 /071 W

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P R 030707Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9274

INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 6165

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, ET, US

SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE

REF: ADDIS 6073

1. IN MAY 31 BILATERAL MEETING ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE, CHIEF OF STAFF WOLDE SELASSIE BEREKAT ADDRESSED HIMSELF TO COMMENTS MADE PREVIOUS DAY BY CHMAAG TO EFFECT THAT IEG HAS NOT BEEN ALLOCATING SUFFICIENT FUNDS FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ITS EXISTING MILITARY EQUIPMENT, NOR DOES IT APPEAR THAT PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT WHICH IT WISHES OBTAIN. CHIEF OF STAFF SAID THAT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAD JUST MADE DECISION THAT ARMED FORCES WILL PROMPTLY BE PROVIDED WITH ALL THEY NEED TO COVER OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES OF PRESENT EQUIPMENT, AS WELL AS THAT WHICH IEG WILL ACQUIRE FROM USG IN FUTURE. MINISTER KIFLE INDICATED HE HAD BEEN PRESENT WHEN COUNCIL TOOK THIS DECISION IN PRINCIPLE AND THAT A TEAM COMPOSED OF DEFENSE MINISTRY AND FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAS BEGUN INTENSIVE WORK TO DEVELOP PRECISE DOLLAR IMPLICATIONS OF THIS DECISION. CHMAAG PRAISED THIS

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DECISION AND MENTIONED VARIOUS GLARING EXAMPLES OF OPERATION

AND MAINTENANCE DEFICIENCIES HE HAD FOUND.

2. CHMAAG PRESENTED IN LETTER (BEING FORWARDED) TO CHIEF OF STAFF HIS PROPOSALS FOR CONTENTS OF FY-74 AND FY-75 CASH AND CREDIT PROGRAMS WITHIN FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED BY USG, AS WELL AS SOME COMMENTS ON LARGER PACKAGE TABLED BY IEG AT MAY 30 MEETING. GENERAL WOLDE SELASSIE SAID IEG TEAM WOULD STUDY THESE COMMENTS AND BE PREPARED DISCUSS SUBJECT AFTERNOON JUNE 3. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT IEG WOULD THEN BE PREPARED PRESENT ITS FINAL DECISION ON CONTENT FY-74 CREDIT PROGRAM. IEG WAS INFORMED OF WORD JUST RECEIVED (STATE 113789) THAT CREDIT LEVEL FOR FY-74 HAD BEEN RESTORED TO \$11 MILLION.

3. IN RESPONSE TO AN OBSERVATION ON ADVERSE EFFECT WHICH SUBSTANTIAL CASH PURCHASES FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT WOULD HAVE ON IEG'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, MINISTER KIFLE SAID THAT MINIMUM DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS MUST HAVE FIRST CLAIM ON IEG RESOURCES.

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